United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

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May 28, 2015

The Honorable Anthony R. Foxx Secretary U.S. Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE Washington, DC 20590

RE: CDFA Number 20.933; Funding Opportunity Number DTOS59-15-RA-TIGER7

Dear Secretary Foxx:

I am pleased to support the City of Milwaukee's application for Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) grant funding through the U.S. Department of Transportation. Funding will assist the City in expanding the proposed Milwaukee Streetcar project located on the Milwaukee Lakefront.

Milwaukee's Lakefront is a major destination for both residents and tourists visiting Wisconsin's largest city. Home to numerous museums, festivals, and parks, the area is also the site of commercial development and exciting new projects, including the construction of the State's largest office building. However, the Lakefront lacks parking as well as accessibility to other major downtown locations, making it difficult for residents, employees, and visitors to travel through the area without an automobile. Funding from the TIGER VII grant program will be matched with authorized local funding to allow the City to create the Lakefront Line, involving the purchase of an additional streetcar vehicle and the extension of the proposed 2.1 mile downtown streetcar system scheduled to open in 2018. It is my understanding that the Milwaukee Streetcar project will be a catalyst for additional development by providing a reliable, safe mode of public transportation to the Lakefront. In addition, this project is expected to incorporate a workforce development program to prepare local workers from underrepresented populations for employment opportunities on the Lakefront Line.

I support efforts aimed at increasing the accessibility of public transportation and opportunities for upward income mobility in Wisconsin communities. For this reason, I respectfully request that full and fair consideration be given to the City of Milwaukee's application for TIGER VII funding. Please keep Hanna Homestead in my office informed on the progress of this application and contact her if you should have further questions or concerns. She may be reached in my Madison office at 30 West Mifflin Street, Suite 700 in Madison, Wisconsin 53703, by phone at (608) 264-5338, or by email at projects grants@baldwin.senate.gov.

Thank you for your kind consideration of this request.

Sincerely.

Tamuny Baldwin
United States Senator